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**STANDISH-WITH-LANGTREE  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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# **Annual Report**

**of the**

**Medical Officer of Health**

**together with the**

**Report of the**

**Public Health Inspector**

**for the year**

**1964**



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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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# STANDISH - WITH - LANGTREE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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*Chairman of the Council :*  
Councillor J. HEALEN, J.P.

*Vice-Chairman of the Council :*  
Councillor E. GARNER.

*Members of the Council :*

Councillor A. BENTHAM.	Councillor L. LEE
Councillor T. BISHOP	Councillor F. LUDBROOK
Councillor J. DEMINGS	Councillor G. MEADOW
Councillor R. HART	Councillor W. MELLING
Councillor MRS. A. HODGEON	Councillor F. T. PAGETT, O.B.E., J.P.
Councillor F. A. HODKINSON	Councillor MRS. M. E. TURNER
Councillor T. HOLCROFT	

*The Public Health Committee consisting of all Members of the Council is the Committee having charge of matters of public health within the Urban District.*

*Chairman of the Public Health Committee :*  
Councillor E. GARNER.

*Vice-Chairman of the Public Health Committee :*  
Councillor G. MEADOW.

*Clerk of the Council :*  
D. CHISHOLM, Esq.

*Medical Officer of Health :*  
R. SCHOFIELD, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H., D.P.H.

*Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent :*  
B. L. PARKER, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.

*Clerk :*  
Mrs. N. FLEMMING.



# *Standish-with-Langtree Urban District Council*

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Public Health Department,  
Ashfield House  
Standish.

Telephone : Standish 2012.

June, 1965.

*To the Chairman and Members of the  
Standish-with-Langtree Urban District Council*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you the Annual Report upon the health of Standish for the year 1964.

As in previous years it has been compiled in the manner indicated by the Ministry of Health.

I desire to thank you for the very kind interest at all times taken in the matters affecting the health and environment of the Urban District. I must also extend my thanks to Mr. B. L. Parker and other members of the staff for their ready and valuable assistance during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

R. SCHOFIELD,

Medical Officer of Health



## GENERAL STATISTICS

Population (Preliminary Census, 1961).....	9,689
Registrar-General's estimated mid-year (1964) home population .....	10,150
Acreage of District .....	3,266
Number of inhabited houses at end of 1964 according to rate book .....	3,622
Rateable Value (31-3-1964) .....	£326,321
Product of Penny Rate (Actual 31-3-1964) .....	£1,303/10/4

## PHYSICAL FEATURES AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Standish-with-Langtree Urban District is pleasantly situated North of the County Borough of Wigan and adjoining it.

The Rural District of Wigan lies to the East and West and the Rural District of Chorley to the North.

The maximum distance between the boundaries is about 5 miles and the height of the district above sea level varies from 88—375 feet.

The surface waters mainly gravitate to the adjacent Douglas Valley to be taken away by the river of that name.

The geological formation is of black loamy soil having generally a sandy sub-soil and in the Eastern parts there are considerable strata of hard rock. The district is rich in coal seams at varying depths.

Although the district is typically urban much of the property is residential in character.

The principal industries in the district are engineering, joinery manufacture, agriculture, food canning and bottling, brewing beer and the manufacture of textiles. All coal mines in the Urban District have now been closed but coal seams under Standish are still being worked from a deep mine situated just outside the northern boundary of the district, consequently the effects of active mining subsidence continue to be experienced in the north ward. Employment in these industries has been well maintained during the year. Each year there is a definite increase in population and rateable value.

For the purpose of Local Government the district is divided into five wards, each with three representatives, making a total of fifteen Councillors.

## VITAL STATISTICS

### BIRTHS

				<i>Live Births—number registered</i>		
				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate .....	.....	.....	.....	87	87	174
Illegitimate .....	.....	.....	.....	2	3	5
The live birth rates per 1,000 of estimated home population are:—						
Crude Rate .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	17.6	
Adjusted Rate .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	17.3 (18.4)	
Comparability factor .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.98	
Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births is 2.87						

				<i>Stillbirths—number registered</i>		
				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate .....	.....	.....	.....	2	2	4
Illegitimate .....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil
The stillbirth rate per 1,000 total live and still births is 21.9 (16.3)						



## DEATHS

<i>Deaths (all causes)—number registered</i>		
<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
84	58	142

The mortality rates per 1,000 of estimated home population are :—

Total (all causes) :	Crude Rate	.....	.....	14.0
	Adjusted Rate	.....	.....	17.1 (11.3)
	Comparability factor.....	.....	.....	1.22
Respiratory Tuberculosis	.....	.....	.....	Nil (0.052)
Malignant Neoplasms (cancer)	.....	.....	.....	2.36 (2.21)

**Maternal Mortality** (including abortion) : There were no deaths from puerperal causes during the year. The maternal mortality rate per 1,000 total live and still births is nil.

**Infant Mortality** (deaths of infants under 1 year of age) :—

				<i>Number registered</i>		
				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	.....	.....	.....	3	1	4
Illegitimate	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil
The infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births is 22.3 (20.0)						

**Neo-Natal Mortality** (deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age) :—

				<i>Number Registered</i>		
				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	.....	.....	.....	2	Nil	2
Illegitimate	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil
The neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births is 11.2 (13.8)						

**Early Neo-Natal Mortality** (deaths of infants under 1 week of age) :—

				<i>Number Registered</i>		
				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	.....	.....	.....	2	Nil	2
Illegitimate	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil
The early neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births is 11.2						

**Perinatal Mortality** (stillbirths and deaths of infants under 1 week of age combined) :—

The perinatal mortality rate per 1,000 total live and still births is 32.8.

**CANCER** : Twenty four deaths occurred in 1964—9 males and 15 females compared with 13 deaths—8 males and 5 females in 1963.

Facilities for Radium treatment for Standish residents are available at the Manchester Radium Institute and at Wigan Infirmary Clinic.

*Figures in parenthesis are corresponding figures for England and Wales.*

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1964

Cause of Death	Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	Age in years								
					1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 & Over
Malignant Neoplasm (Stomach) ... ..	M.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm (Lung-Bronchus)	F.	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm (Breast) ... ..	M.	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm (Breast) ... ..	F.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	M.	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diabetes ... ..	F.	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-
Diabetes ... ..	M.	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System...	F.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System...	M.	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1
Coronary Disease—Angina ... ..	F.	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	5
Coronary Disease—Angina ... ..	M.	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	2	5
Hypertension with Heart Disease ...	F.	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	12	4	4
Hypertension with Heart Disease ...	M.	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	4
Hypertension with Heart Disease ...	F.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Heart Disease ... ..	M.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Heart Disease ... ..	F.	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5
Other Circulatory Disease ... ..	M.	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	6
Other Circulatory Disease ... ..	F.	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Pneumonia ... ..	M.	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Pneumonia ... ..	F.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bronchitis ... ..	M.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
Bronchitis ... ..	F.	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	M.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ... ..	F.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ... ..	M.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gastritis—Enteritis and Diarrhoea ...	F.	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Gastritis—Enteritis and Diarrhoea ...	M.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis ... ..	F.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis ... ..	M.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Congenital Malformations ... ..	F.	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Congenital Malformations ... ..	M.	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	M.	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Motor Vehicle Accidents ... ..	F.	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Motor Vehicle Accidents ... ..	M.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All Other Accidents ... ..	F.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All Other Accidents ... ..	M.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total All Causes ... ..	M.	84	2	1	1	1	1	1	4	6	24	16	28
Total All Causes ... ..	F.	58	-	1	1	1	1	1	-	3	11	15	26

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

### LABORATORY FACILITIES

Laboratories of the Public Health Laboratory Service established at the Wigan and Preston Infirmarys are used for bacteriological examinations. Chemical analyses are usually undertaken by the County Analyst at Preston.

The arrangements have proved quite adequate and satisfactory.

### AMBULANCE FACILITIES

The duty of providing an Ambulance Service devolves upon the Lancashire County Council (Health Division No. 8) as the Local Authority under the National Health Service Act. A new Ambulance Station situated in Glebe Close which covers the needs of Standish was brought into use early in the year replacing the former station at Ashfield House. The service is quite satisfactory.

### PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There were 71 cases of measles notified occurring sporadically throughout the year. Apart from these and 2 cases of respiratory tuberculosis no other diseases were notified.

The following table indicates the incidence of these diseases and the age groups affected.

**Food Poisoning.**—No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

**General.**—In accordance with the provisions of the National Health Service Acts, a copy of each notification of an infectious disease, including food poisoning, has to be sent by the Department to the Local Health Authority within 12 hours, if possible, and in any case within 48 hours after receipt.

Other Returns relating to the prevalence of and deaths from Notifiable Infectious Diseases have to be sent to the Registrar-General and the County Medical Officer of Health at weekly and quarterly intervals.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1964

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	Total Cases at all ages	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED AGE PERIODS — YEARS										65 and over	age un- known	Totas Deathl
		0	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	25	45			
Measles (excl. rubella)	71	1	5	8	13	10	34	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis (Resp.)	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	73	1	6	8	13	10	34	—	—	1	—	—	—	—



## IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

The following statistics show the number of persons resident in Standish who were immunised and vaccinated during the year.

<i>Type of prophylactic</i>	<i>Pre-School Children</i>	<i>School Children</i>	<i>Adults</i>
Triple Antigen (Diphtheria-Whooping Cough and Tetanus) : Primary .....	105	9	Nil
Re-inforcement .....	Nil	Nil	Nil
Combined Antigen (Diphtheria and Tetanus) : Primary .....	1	Nil	Nil
Re-inforcement .....	1	139	Nil
Poliomyelitis : Primary .....	150	2	12
Re-inforcement .....	7	103	2
Smallpox Vaccinations : Primary .....	52	2	7
Re-vaccinations .....	Nil	Nil	20

## TUBERCULOSIS

Arrangements for the diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis are vested in the County Council, Specialist Chest Physicians of the Regional Hospital Boards and the General Practitioners. The County Council, on direction of the Minister of Health, is responsible for both prevention and after care of this condition, but local sanitary authorities are still empowered under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, to take all necessary action to prevent the spread of infection and the Medical Officer of Health still retains specific duties and responsibilities under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952.

Standish cases attend the Chest Clinic, Millgate, Wigan.

Two new cases of tuberculosis—both respiratory—were notified during the year compared with five respiratory cases last year. There were no deaths from tuberculosis during the year.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

No action was taken under these Acts in respect of the removal of persons in need of care and attention.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### WATER SUPPLY

The Statutory Water Undertaker is the Makerfield Water Board, which, on the 2nd October, 1961, assumed responsibility for providing the district with a sufficient and wholesome supply of water.

The Council has one representative on the Makerfield Water Board.

The whole of the water supplied to this district by the Board is obtained in bulk from the Manchester Corporation and comes from Thirlmere.

The water is filtered and chlorinated at the Standish waterworks before distribution.

During the year the Board carried out extensions to water mains for new housing purposes and to improve the supply in certain low pressure areas.

All houses in the district are supplied from public water mains direct to houses and the supply is generally plentiful.

No action was necessary as regards any form of contamination or plumbo-solvency.

The fluoride content is 0.04 parts per million which is similar to that normally found in Thirlmere water.

**Water Sampling.**—The following samples of fully treated water going into supply were taken during the year and the results are tabulated below.

Bacteriological examinations			Chemical analyses		
No.	Results		No.	Results	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
5	3	2	2	2	Nil.

The water supply is consistently reported upon as a good soft upland surface water free from organic pollution and in every way quite fit for drinking and all domestic purposes.



## REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mr. B. L. Parker, Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent, has kindly contributed the following report :—

### DETAILS OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS

Butchers' Shops .....	9	Watereourses .....	5
Slaughterhouses.....	137	Dustbin provision .....	131
Bakehouses .....	3	Keeping of Animals and Poultry	1
Fish and Chip Shops .....	8	Housing Act Inspections .....	248
Ice-Cream Vendors .....	8	Overcrowding .....	6
Cafes and Canteens .....	3	Housing Applications .....	3
Licensed Premises .....	7	Caravans & Moveable Dwellings	6
Other Food Premises .....	262	Infectious Disease Inquiries ...	6
Hawkers .....	8	Filthy or Verminous Premises	24
Dairies .....	5	Disinfestation of Premises .....	21
Milk Distributors .....	25	Interviews with Owners etc. ...	51
Factories (Non-Mech) .....	4	Re-Inspection of Notices .....	49
Factories (Mech) .....	30	Rodent Control .....	569
Sites of Building Operations and Works of Engineering		Atmospherie Pollution .....	14
Construction .....	11	Water Supplies .....	10
Offices and P.H.A. Workplaces	11	Scrap Metal and Marine Store	
Outworkers Premises .....	1	Dealers .....	1
Shops under Shops Act .....	291	Hairdressing Establishments ...	10
Investigation of Complaints ...	49	Welfare—Aged Persons and	
Inspections and Tests Drainage	292	Problem Families .....	9
Septic Tanks and Cesspools.....	20	Noise Abatement Act .....	1
Supervision over Refuse		Agricultural Units.....	23
Colleotion and Disposal .....	255	Various Causes .....	23
		Animal Boarding Establishment	
		Act .....	3
		O.S.R.P. Act .....	11

**Total Number of Inspections : 2664**

## SUMMARY OF DEFECTS OR NUISANCES

<i>Description</i>	<i>No. discovered and abated</i>
Defective or obstructed drainage systems .....	180
Defective refuse receptacles .....	131
Defective or flooded approach paths and yards .....	33
Defective windows .....	23
Defective doors and frames .....	21
Defective roofs .....	16
Defective brickwork (external walls) .....	10
Defective watercloset appliances .....	10
Damp—defective and perished wall plaster.....	10
Offensive odours and accumulations.....	10
Defective eaves gutters or rainwater pipes .....	7
Defective firegrates .....	7
Defective chimney stacks and flues .....	6
Flooded cellars and sub-floor spaces .....	5
Defective or insanitary sinks .....	4
Obstructed eaves gutters or rainwater pipes .....	4
Defective watercloset structures .....	4
Defective or insanitary sink waste pipes .....	2
Defective outbuildings.....	2
Defective ceilings .....	2
External decoration .....	2
Smoke and grit emission .....	2
Noise nuisances.....	2
Defective or obstructed private sewage disposal plant .....	1
Defective wash-house structures .....	1
Defective pail closet structures .....	1
Defective floors.....	1
Defective cold water service pipes .....	1
Filthy or verminous premises.....	1
Insufficient water supply .....	1
Insufficient sanitary accommodation .....	1
<hr/>	
<b>Defects or Nuisances : Number discovered and abated</b>	<b>501</b>

**Number of Notices Served : Informal 36. Statutory Nil.**

**Legal Proceedings : Nil.**

It will be seen from the foregoing statistics that much time and energy was devoted to the improvement of conditions in the environmental health field—day-to-day matters so highly essential to the health and well-being of the community and covering a far wider field than is usually appreciated by the general public—an unspectacular service in which it is difficult to prove that the absence of epidemics of one sort or another was due to the effort made.

The year under review again saw an increase in the work of the Public Health Department due to the growth of the district and the impact of new legislation.

The World Health Organisation expert committee on environmental sanitation said in relation to environmental sanitation that “it was the control of all those factors in man’s physical environment which exercised or could exercise a deleterious effect on his physical, mental and social well-being.”

The committee also stated that public health and environmental sanitation have now as fundamental objectives not only the prevention or absence of disease but the promotion of physical, mental and social well-being.

The work of the public health department is prevention rather than cure. The department seeks to ensure that at all times and in all places all that contributes to the health and comfort of the individual is assured.

## SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

Approximate number of the various types of sanitary accommodation provided in the district is as follows :—

Number of houses on water carriage system .....	3,598
Number of privy middens (mostly on farms) .....	8
Number of pail closets (mostly on farms) .....	16
Number of waste water closets .....	2
Number of moveable dustbins .....	3,854

Not many of the remaining conservancy closets can be connected to the public sewerage system, but, as opportunities arise, every effort is made and ingenuity used, to find ways and means of conversion to the water carriage system with outfall to private sewage disposal plant.

# HOUSING

## STATISTICS.

### 1.—Number of new dwellings erected during the year :—

		Houses	Flats
(i)	By the local authority .....	18	Nil
(ii)	By other local authorities .....	Nil	Nil
(iii)	By other bodies or persons .....	94	Nil

### 2.—Total No. of Council-owned dwellings existing at end of year 824

### 3.—Inspections of dwellings during the year :—

(i)	(a)	Total No. of dwellings inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).....	248
	(b)	No. of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose.....	297
	(c)	No. of dwellings in (a) above found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit.....	36
(ii)		Total No. of dwellings existing at end of year which were unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit and in respect of which :—	
	(a)	Demolition, Clearance or Closing Orders have been made (at any time) .....	6
	(b)	Demolition, Clearance or Closing Orders have not yet been made .....	22

### 4.—Houses Demolished :—

In Clearance Areas:	Houses Demolished	Displaced Persons	during year Families
(i) Houses unfit for human habitation .....	Nil	Nil	Nil
(ii) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement etc. ....	Nil	Nil	Nil
(iii) Houses on land acquired under Section 43(2) Housing Act, 1957 .....	Nil	Nil	Nil
Not in Clearance Areas:			
(iv) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1) Housing Act, 1957 .....	8	19	8
(v) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health .....	Nil	Nil	Nil
(vi) Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts .....	Nil	Nil	Nil
(vii) Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders ...	Nil	Nil	Nil



5.—Unfit Houses Closed:—

	Displaced during year		
	Number	Persons	Families
(1) Under Sections 16(4) 17(1) and 35(1) Housing Act, 1957 .....	Nil	Nil	Nil
(2) Under Section 17(3) and 26 Housing Act, 1957.....	Nil	Nil	Nil
(3) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18 Housing Act, 1957 .....	Nil	Nil	Nil

6.—Unfit Houses made Fit and Houses in which Defects  
were remedied:—

	By Owner	By Local Authority
(1) After informal action by local authority .....	36	—
(2) After formal notice under:		
(a) Public Health Acts .....	Nil	Nil
(b) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act, 1957 ...	Nil	Nil
(iii) Under Section 24 Housing Act, 1957 .....	Nil	—

7.—Unfit Houses in Temporary Use:—  
(Housing Act, 1957)

	Number of houses (1)	Number of separate dwell- ings contained in column (1) (2)
Position at end of year:		
(1) Retained for temporary accommodation:		
(a) Under Section 48 .....	Nil	Nil
(b) Under Section 17(2) .....	Nil	Nil
(c) Under Section 46 .....	Nil	Nil
(2) Licensed for temporary occupation under Sections 34 or 53 .....	Nil	—

8.—Purchase of Houses by Agreement:—

	Number of houses (1)	No. of occu- pants of houses in column (1) (2)
Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Comp- ulsory Purchase Orders, purchased during the year .....	Nil	Nil

9.—Housing Act, 1949 and Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958—Improvement Grants, Etc.:—

	No. of dwelling-houses or other buildings affected in schemes of :—	
	Private Bodies or individuals	Local Authority
Action during year:—		
(1) Submitted by private individuals to local authority .....	20	—
(2) Approved by local authority .....	20	—
(3) Submitted by local authority to Ministry .....	Nil	Nil
(4) Finally approved by Ministry .....	Nil	Nil
(5) Work completed .....	20	72
(6) Additional separate dwellings included in (5) above .....	Nil	Nil
(7) Any other action taken under the Acts (give brief particulars) .....	Nil	

10.—House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959 and Housing Acts, 1961 and 1964—Standard Grants:—

Action during year:—	No. of dwellings or other buildings affected
(1) Applications submitted to local authority for improvement to full standard .....	12
(2) Applications approved by local authority for improvement to reduced standard .....	Nil
(3) Total applications approved by local authority...	12
(4) Work completed .....	12
(5) Particulars of any action taken relating to compulsory improvement of dwellings .....	Nil

11.—Housing Act, 1957—Part IV—Overcrowding:—

- (a)

(i)

Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year .....

4
- (ii)

Number of families dwelling therein .....

6
- (iii)

Number of persons dwelling therein .....

24
- (b)

Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year .....

5
- (c)

(i)

Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year .....

5
- (ii)

Number of persons concerned in such cases .....

28



**HOUSING :** Housing is one of the most important factors affecting the health of any community. The duty of maintaining an inspection of the housing conditions in the district was continued during the year. Much time was devoted to this important sphere of environmental health work which resulted in the improvement of the housing conditions of many families.

Slum clearance proposals have so far involved 62 dwelling-houses which have been dealt with as summarized :—

Number of houses demolished or closed .....	56
Number of houses dealt with but awaiting demolition .....	6
Number of houses estimated not to have an expectation of life of 15 years .....	22

These proposals—designed to clear the worst of the unfit houses in the district—have received the approval of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

Good progress has been made with the actual demolition of condemned properties without resort to default action.

Housing conditions in the district are generally fairly good and no serious slum problem exists.

With regard to the improvement of housing conditions—a survey revealed that of the total number of houses in the district some 600 houses—or for practical purposes 20 per cent—are worth and capable of being improved.

These houses are sub-standard but are not in such a state of disrepair and not so badly arranged as to be included in slum clearance schemes. Most of these houses were built in the late 19th century—they are structurally sound but lack what are rightly considered today to be essential amenities—and still have a useful life probably in the region of 20 to 30 years. The residents of these dwellings are normally content to remain where they have lived for most of their lives and would welcome the improvement of their homes to give them the minimum amenities which are expected today.

Each year steady progress is made in improving this type of dwelling.

There are two kinds of grant available for modernising older houses :—

- (1) The (1959) Standard Grant which house owners can claim as of right. During the time the Act has been in operation 45 houses have been improved to the five point standard.

(2) The (1949) Discretionary Grant which covers more extensive improvements is paid at the discretion of the Council. 146 houses have so far been improved to the twelve point standard with the assistance of discretionary grants.

It is in both national and local interest that the maximum number of houses—capable of being raised to this higher standard of fitness—comfort and convenience—should be preserved—and some day not too far ahead it is hoped that it will be made compulsory for all houses to be furnished with these simple aids to healthy living. To halt obsolescence before it reaches the slum stage by providing some measure of financial assistance is a much better proposition than doing nothing until the only solution is demolition and a new house as a replacement.

A scheme for the provision of wash-hand basins in 72 old type Council houses was completed during the year.

At the end of the year there were 180 applicants for Council housing accommodation—approximately 120 requiring 2-bedroom—20 requiring 3-bedroom type houses—and 40 requiring aged persons bungalows. Whilst a degree of overcrowding exists it does not constitute a serious problem as the foregoing statistics will show. Investigation into the circumstances of a number of applicants was made and reports prepared for the guidance of the Committee in its endeavours to ensure that applicants with the greatest housing need are re-housed. The number of applicants having an acute housing need is now not so great as it was some few years ago.

Whilst Standish attracts considerable housing development by private enterprise—there remains no small demand and preference for that substantial municipal house with the security of good management.

Building schemes consisting of 22 two-bedroom houses and 10 one-bedroom aged persons bungalows—the latter with warden supervision and telecommunication system—were completed at Standish Lower Ground.

An extension of the Larkhill Estate by 70 two-bedroom houses was also in progress and the provision of further aged persons dwellings was under consideration.

Mining subsidence continues to make its impact upon the community here—destroying homes and disrupting families. No amount of depreciation payments or remedial works can fully compensate the householder—more particularly the housewife who bears the brunt of the upset—for the inconvenience and unrest caused.

Mining subsidence—an inexact science—is a continuing process which can never be fully assessed and where it is in evidence normal day-to-day work is all the more difficult.

## Rent Act, 1957.

No action was called for under the provisions of this Act during the year.

### DISINFESTATION

The following premises were disinfested during the year for the reasons stated :—

Ants	.....	.....	.....	.....	13 whole houses
Cockroaches	.....	.....	.....	.....	4 whole houses
Bees	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 whole houses
Silverfish	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 whole house
Earwigs	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 whole house

Where the furniture and effects of prospective tenants of Council houses are known to be verminous—disinfestation is carried out in order to prevent infestation of the new premises.

Spraying and dusting with various insecticidal liquids and powders proved to be highly effective.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION

All notified cases of certain infectious diseases are visited and enquiries made relative to the source of infection and general home conditions. Recommendations are made and advice given concerning isolation of the case and the care to be exercised by contacts.

Public library books from infected premises are disinfected by the health department before being returned to the library for re-issue. Books in an unserviceable condition are sometimes destroyed by arrangement with the librarian.

No premises were disinfected during the year.

A standing arrangement with Hindley Urban District Council exists for the transportation and treatment of infected articles requiring steam disinfection.

### RODENT CONTROL

One trained part-time operator is employed on rodent control work.

The following abstract from the Annual Report submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food indicates the nature and extent of work carried out during the 12 months ended 31/12/1964.



	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	NON-AGRICULTURAL All Other (including business premises)	Total	AGRICULTURAL
Number of properties in District	8	3525	160	3693	40
Number of properties inspected as a result of:—					
(a) Notification .....	Nil	80	2	82	6
(b) Survey or otherwise .....	8	240	100	348	40
Total inspections carried out including re-inspections .....	18	320	102	440	71
Number of properties inspected which were found to be infested by:—					
(a) Rats					
Major .....	3	Nil	Nil	3	2
Minor .....	5	65	3	73	4
(b) Mice					
Major .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Minor .....	Nil	15	1	16	1
Number of infested properties treated by the L.A. ....	8	80	4	92	7
Total treatments carried out—including re-treatments .....	16	80	4	100	7
Number of “Block” control schemes carried out .....	Nil	5	Nil	5	Nil

The rat is a parasite on our social structure and the depredations of rodents if left to proliferate are costly and highly dangerous.

Rodent control techniques are better understood and practiced to-day than ever before.

Residents can help by repressing rats and mice and reporting immediately the presence of these pests.

The services of the Council's rodent operator—under the control and supervision of the Public Health Inspector—are available to undertake the destruction of rats and mice on land or premises within the Urban District.

No charge is made for the disinfestation of private dwelling-houses but business and agricultural premises are charged for treatments on a time and material basis as distinct from contract terms.

The sewers and sewage disposal works were systematically treated also the refuse disposal sites.

It is only by co-ordinated attention to underground and surface infestations that the rat population is kept to a minimum.

No legal proceedings were taken under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act during the year.

Regular attendances were made at the South West Lancashire Advisory Committee and the fullest co-operative working with contiguous local authorities and other bodies exists.

## PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Public sanitary conveniences for both sexes planned and equipped on modern lines are maintained by the Council in a central and convenient position in the township.

It is more than regrettable that these conveniences have been the target for acts of vandalism by what are obviously mis-guided individuals.

The Council has made Byelaws as to the conduct of persons using the conveniences.

The provision of public sanitary conveniences at Standish Lower Ground is under consideration.

## RIVERS AND STREAMS

Continuous pollution of rivers and streams takes place from both public and private sewage disposal plant. Attempts are made to reduce the pollution from private premises by the health department arranging for the cleansing of cesspools and septic tanks at the cost of the respective owners. The pollution from public sewage disposal works can only be mitigated by the provision of a new sewerage disposal scheme to which the Council continues to give serious consideration.

As from the 1st June, 1963, a date fixed by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, it became an offence to CONTINUE to discharge into any stream or river (including canal) any trade or sewage effluent, unless the consent of the Lancashire River Board had been obtained or applied for before that date.

## SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Standish has a water carriage system serving the majority of premises in the district. Areas at Boars Head—part of Wigan Lower Road and the northern portion of Preston Road are unsewered.

The Local Authority maintains two sewage disposal works—at Arbour Lane and Chorley Road—and two sewage farms—at Fairhurst House and Langtree. The Chorley Road works and the sewage farms are grossly overloaded and cannot deal efficiently with the increased

influx of recent years. The Arbour Lane works has been so badly disrupted by mining subsidence as to render the effective treatment of sewage thereat impracticable. The sewerage system for Standish Lower Gound discharges into the trunk sewer of Wigan Corporation.

The prospect of heavy and continuous rainfall is—in certain parts of the Urban District—now regarded with fear because of the past unpleasant experiences following the surcharging of sewers and drains and the consequent fouling of yards and gardens with voluminous quantities of sewage.

The sewerage system in the James Square area has been so badly disrupted by mining subsidence as to destroy self-cleansing velocities and it is feared that the consequent build-up of solids in the sewers will eventually give rise to a serious public health problem.

The Bradley sewer is known to be defective and at certain times it is incapable of containing the increased volume of trade waste which it now receives. Continuous gross pollution of the Bradley Brook results.

The attention of the Council has been drawn to incidents and conditions such as are described and which constitute a very serious threat to the health of the local inhabitants.

A scheme for the improvement of the sewerage and sewage disposal systems has approached finalisation on several occasions only to be held-up by unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of the Council and its Consultant Engineers.

The district cannot afford such a situation to prevail much longer because in addition to the paramount public health reason the curtailment of the growth of the district in building alone will be significant.

## CARAVAN SITES AND MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Site licences under the provisions of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, to use plots of land as sites for single caravans have been granted in two instances.

The use of caravans and similar structures for permanent residence should be discouraged as such moveable structures do not constitute suitable substitutes for dwellings of traditional construction.

## ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

General observations of the eight factory and works chimneys were made during the year. Pollution of the atmosphere from industrial furnaces within the Urban District has now largely been eliminated.

The emission of smoke and fumes from the extensive spoilbank at the disused Victoria Colliery periodically gave cause for concern and measures had to be taken by the National Coal Board to mitigate the recurring nuisance.



Section 3 of the Clean Air Act, 1956, requires the person proposing to install a new furnace having a heating capacity greater than 55,000 British Thermal Units per hour to give notice of this intention to the local authority. One such installation was notified during the year.

With regard to progressive elimination of domestic smoke—responsible for about one half of all atmospheric pollution—householders are advised to install approved smokeless methods of heating when replacing old and obsolete grates.

Bye-laws made under Section 24 of the Clean Air Act, 1956, are in operation requiring the installation of approved heating and cooking appliances in new buildings.

This Urban District is not included in the provisional list of “black areas” prepared by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for domestic smoke-control purposes.

The Council is a member of the National Society for Clean Air.

### OFFENSIVE TRADES

No offensive trades are carried on in the district.

### COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are none in the district.

### SWIMMING BATHS AND BATHING POOLS

There are no swimming baths or pools open to the public in the district.

### SHOPS AND OFFICES

#### (1)—Shops Act, 1950.

The provisions of this Act concerning working hours, intervals for meals and rest and weekly half-day holiday of young persons are the responsibility of the Lancashire County Council as the Shops Act Authority, but, the Public Health Inspector is delegated Inspector of Shops by the County Council as regards these matters. Details of each shop inspection are sent to the County Medical Officer of Health and any contraventions reported are dealt with directly by the County Council.

There are 140 shops of various kinds within the Urban District in respect of which 291 inspections were made. Assistants are employed in 45 shops and young persons in 5 of this number.

#### (2)—Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

The purpose of this Act is to make provision for securing the health, safety and welfare of persons employed to work in office, shop and certain railway premises.

The following is an abstract of information from the Annual Report made to the Minister of Labour in accordance with the provisions of Section 60 of the Act.

CLASS OF WORKPLACE	Total number of registered premises at end of year		No. of persons employed in such premises
Offices: .....	17	.....	37
Retail shops: .....	31	.....	81
Wholesale shops, warehouses: .....	3	.....	21
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens.....	10	.....	51
Fuel storage depots: .....	2	.....	2
	<hr/>		
	Totals: 63	Males: 82.	Females: 110.
	<hr/>		
Number of general inspections carried out: .....	Nil		
Number of visits of all kinds made: .....	11		
Number of exemptions granted: .....	Nil		
Number of prosecutions: .....	Nil		

## HAIRDRESSING ESTABLISHMENTS

There are twelve hairdressing establishments—two for males and ten for females—within the Urban District. Communications concerning the hygiene of premises and hairdressing equipment have been sent to all hairdressers.

## FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1961.

### Part 1 of the Factories Act, 1961

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .....	3	4	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .....	28	30	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworker's premises).	9	11	Nil	Nil
TOTAL ...	40	45	Nil	Nil

2.—Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspec. (4)	Referred by H.M. Inspec. (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2) .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) .....	1	1	Nil	1	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—					
(a) Insufficient .....	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) ...	1	1	Nil	1	Nil
TOTAL ...	3	3	Nil	2	Nil

The provision of sanitary conveniences on sites of building operations in accordance with Section 127 of the Act is an important matter often neglected and demands constant vigilance to avoid insanitary conditions arising.

There are three persons engaged in various forms of outwork recorded under Part VIII of the Act.

A number of workplaces coming within the provisions of Section 46 of the Public Health Act 1936, are regularly inspected.



## Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act, 1956.—

This Act imposes upon local authorities the duty of ensuring that all agricultural units within its area where workers are employed in agriculture are provided with suitable and sufficient sanitary conveniences which must be properly maintained and kept clean.

There are 31 agricultural units in this Urban District which are generally small in character and on which no exceptional seasonal work takes place. Inspections of these agricultural units have revealed that all have available the water or conservancy type of sanitary convenience at the farmstead sufficient to meet the needs of regular and seasonal workers.

## RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

There are no premises registered or licensed under the above Act within the Urban District.

## NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

The Noise Abatement Act recognised for the first time in history that noise can be a danger to health.

Subject to certain exceptions, noise or vibration which is a nuisance can now be dealt with as a statutory nuisance.

Complaints concerning excessive use of loudspeakers by ice-cream vendors were dealt with during the year.

## LICENSED PREMISES

There are 13 public houses within the Urban District.

Systematic inspections are made of the sanitary accommodation at these premises and should the need arise reports are prepared and submitted to the General Annual Licensing Meeting of the Justices. By this means considerable structural improvements to sanitary accommodation have been effected at several of the licensed premises.

A Hygiene Code of Practice for public houses which, inter alia, directs particular attention to the cleansing and sterilising of glasses, abolition of lead and other unsuitable beer piping and pumps, cleansing of beer piping and pumps, disposal of drippings and overspill beer and the abolition of spittoons has been formulated and addressed to owners and licensees of all public houses and secretaries and stewards of all clubs within the Urban District by whom it has been well received.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

All food premises and the vehicles of food hawkers and itinerant vendors of ice-cream in the district have been inspected and assessed in comparison with the various provisions of the Model Byelaws for securing the observance of Sanitary and Cleanly Conditions and Practices in connection with the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air and The Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

During the year 445 inspections were made for this purpose and except in four cases all contraventions discovered were dealt with verbally on the spot.

Efforts to improve standards of hygiene in food premises have been going on for a long time and although food premises generally have now been brought up to reasonable standard experience has shown that the effort must be sustained.

The repercussions of the Aberdeen typhoid outbreak necessitated a greater number of visits to food premises than is usual and during these visits no opportunity was lost of emphasising to food handlers the need for strict hygienic control at all times and requesting early attention to matters found to be in default.

Full use was made of the food hygiene publicity material supplied free of charge by the Ministry of Health.

Thoughtful and responsible behaviour by the human element in all matters relating to personal cleanliness—food manipulation—pre-packaging—display and sale—cleanliness of premises and transportation at both wholesale and retail stages remain the essential pre-requisites in preventing food borne diseases.

There is a natural tendency for traders to place business interests before food hygiene. The task of the inspector is to persuade traders that the two are synonymous.

This task can only be accomplished with the full co-operation of the customer who should realise the importance of shopping and eating where food is dealt with hygienically.

Customers have two big advantages over the inspector. The first is that they are on the spot the entire time the shop is open—the second is that they possess a powerful weapon—the ability to withdraw custom if dissatisfied with the service.

Regular ante-mortem and one hundred per cent post-mortem inspection of all animals slaughtered at the one licensed private slaughterhouse within the district was carried out as detailed in the following table.

All inspections were carried out in accordance with the provisions of The Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963.

Maximum charges as allowed by these regulations are made by the Council for meat inspection and marking services.

DETAILS	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed .....	479	5	Nil	1536	1425	Nil
Number inspected .....	479	5	Nil	1536	1425	Nil
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:—</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	2	1	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned .....	114	3	Nil	259	154	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci .....	23.80	60	Nil	16.99	10.87	Nil
<i>Tuberculosis only:—</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned .....	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	22	Nil
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis .....	0.20	Nil	Nil	Nil	1.54	Nil
<i>Cysticercosis:—</i>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned .....	11	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

The following foods were inspected and voluntarily surrendered as unfit for human consumption :—

<i>Description of Food</i>	<i>Disease or other cause of condemnation</i>	<i>Weight condemned</i>				
		<i>tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>qts.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>ozs.</i>
Canned tomato pulp .....	Decomposition	6	17	1	18	0
Ox tongue .....	Condition suspect	—	—	—	—	8
		6	17	1	18	8



<i>Carcases-Organs or parts condemned</i>	<i>No. condemned</i>	<i>Disease or other cause of condemnation</i>	<i>Weight condemned tons cwt. qrs. lbs.</i>		
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### CATTLE EXCLUDING COWS :—

Heads less tongue .....	1	(1)	...	Tuberculosis (Calcified)	24
Whole carcases and organs ...	1		...	Cysticercus bovis	
				(Generalised) .....	4 2 10
Heads and tongue .....	3		...	Cysticercus bovis ...	3 0
Heads less tongue .....	2		...	Cysticercus bovis ...	1 20
Hearts .....	9	(12)	...	Cysticercus bovis ...	27
Heads and tongue .....	1		...	Abscess .....	1 0
Lungs .....	9		...	Gongestion .....	3 0
Lungs .....	2		...	Abs cesses .....	20
Diaphragm or skirt .....	3		...	Peritonitis .....	9
Diaphragm or skirt .....	1		...	Pleurisy .....	3
Spleens .....	1		...	Peritonitis .....	3
Kidneys .....	2		...	Cystic .....	3
Kidneys .....	2		...	Nephritis .....	3
Livers—whole .....	21		...	Distomatosis and	
				Cirrhosis .....	2 2 14
Livers—whole .....	16		...	Abscesses .....	1 3 26
Livers—whole .....	1		...	Tumour .....	14
Livers—part .....	64	(114)	...	Cirrhosis .....	4 1 22

### COWS :—

Livers—whole .....	1		...	Distomatosis and	
				Cirrhosis .....	14
Livers—part .....	2	(3)	...	Cirrhosis .....	16

### SHEEP AND LAMBS :—

Whole carcases and organs ...	2		...	Extensive bruising	1 1 10
Livers .....	259	(261)	...	Parasitic .....	4 2 15

### PIGS :—

Heads .....	22	(22)	...	Tuberculosis .....	2 1 12
Whole carcases and organs ...	1		...	Acute septic peritonitis	1 0 8
Heads .....	6		...	Abscesses .....	2 16
Plucks .....	10		...	Congestion .....	2 24
Lungs and Heart .....	9		...	Congestion and	
				Pericarditis .....	1 8
Hearts .....	21		...	Pericarditis.....	11
Livers .....	90		...	Parasitic .....	3 1 7
Livers .....	16		...	Cirrhosis .....	2 8
Legs—part .....	1		...	Bruising .....	6
Shoulders—part .....	1	(155)	...	Bruising .....	6

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1	12	0	23
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Grand total weight: 8 tons 9 cwt. 2 qrs. 13 lbs.

A perusal of these post-mortem findings prompts two comments :

- (a) It will be noted that no tuberculous lesions of any significance were found in any of the cattle slaughtered—an experience which can only be attributed to the success of the now country-wide introduction of the Attested Herd Scheme.
- (b) *Cysticercus bovis* which gives rise to the tapeworm in the human being remains a health hazard and calls for the greatest diligence on the part of the meat inspector in his efforts to interrupt the life-cycle of this parasite.

The canned tomato pulp is imported by a food canning firm operating in the district and damage during transit or deterioration during storage are the reasons for condemnation.

All condemned meat and other food is disposed of either to non-edible by-product manufacturers or by burying at the local authority's refuse disposal site under the direction and supervision of the Public Health Inspector. All condemned meat is disposed of in accordance with The Meat (Staining and Sterilisation) Regulations, 1960.

The following information is given in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health Circular.

**Number of Food Premises (by type of business) in District at end of year :—**

Type of Business	No.
General grocers and provision dealers .....	46
Greengrocers & fruiterers (incl. those selling wet fish/game/etc.)	9
Fishmongers (incl. those selling poultry/game/etc.) .....	Nil
Meat shops (butchers/purveyors of cooked and preserved meat/ tripe/etc.) .....	10
Bakers and/or confectioners .....	4
Fried fish shops .....	7
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery/minerals/ice-cream etc.	4
Licensed premises/clubs/canteens/restaurants/cafes/snack bars and similar catering establishments .....	26
Others .....	8
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>114</b>
Number of above premises where more than one type of classified business is carried on .....	13
<b>Actual number of food premises</b> .....	<b>101</b>

**Number of Food Premises (by type) registered under the Lancashire County Council (River Board and General Powers) Act, 1938.**

Type of Business	No. registered at 31-12-64	Number of inspections of registered prem- ises during year
(a) Hawkers food storage premises .....	1	
(b) Sale of ice-cream .....	38	16
(c) Preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted or pressed or pickled or preserved meat .....	6	

The provisions of Section 14 of the Lancashire County Council (River Board and General Powers) Act, 1951, were not adopted by the Council and registration of premises and persons continues to be effected under Sections 115 and 116 of the Act of 1938.

**Food Hawkers registered under the Lancashire County Council (River Board and General Powers) Act, 1938.**

A variable number of hawkers of meat or meat food products or fish or fruit or vegetables is registered with the Council under the provisions of the above Act.

Regular inspections of the vehicles and food offered or exposed for sale are made and the hawker's attention drawn to any irregularities found.

**Ice-Cream :—**

There are no manufacturers of ice-cream within the Urban District. All shop retailers of ice-cream and water-ice are equipped with a modern refrigerator and sell pre-packed products of reputable quality. The only loose ice-cream sold within the area is by itinerant vendors. **The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963.**

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the district.

#### FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLING

The County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority and the County Medical Officer has kindly supplied the following details :—

A total of 45 samples was obtained by the County Sampling Officers in the Urban District made up of 23 samples of milk and 22 samples of other commodities.

Four samples—two of milk and two of other commodities—were reported upon adversely by the County Analyst and appropriate action was taken in each case.

#### SLAUGHTERHOUSES

Statutory Instruments Nos. 1019 and 1020 made by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on the 29th May, 1961, came into operation on the 1st July, 1961, from which date existing slaughterhouses in the district had to comply with hygiene and prevention of cruelty construction regulations.

There is one licensed private slaughterhouse within the Urban District where much of the meat consumed by Standish residents is produced and this has been brought up to the standard required by the regulations. It is pleasing to record that the important work of meat production thereat has operated quite satisfactorily.

#### SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958

*The Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958*

The above Act prohibits the slaughtering and stunning of animals except by licensed slaughtermen and requires all animals to be stunned by a mechanically operated instrument prior to slaughter. The above regulations are designed to secure humane conditions and practices in connection with the slaughter of animals at slaughterhouses and knacker's yards.



A licence to slaughter animals is valid for a maximum period of one year and must specify the types of animal permitted to be slaughtered and the type of stunning instrument to be used.

Eight slaughtermen are licensed by the Council to slaughter animals.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

This Act provides for a system of licensing and inspection of Pet Shops by Local Authorities. The principal purpose is to enforce reasonable treatment and accommodation of pet animals during their sale or keeping for sale.

There are no Pet Shops within the Urban District.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963.

This Act provides for a system of licensing and inspection by local authorities of any establishment at which a business of providing accommodation for cats or dogs is carried on.

The purpose of the Act is to regulate the keeping of boarding establishments for animals and for purposes connected therewith.

Two establishments—one for dogs and one for cats—have been licensed.

MILK AND DAIRIES ADMINISTRATION

The following statistics give some idea of the milk supply of the district :—

Milk Producers in the district	.....	.....	.....	.....	15
including Producer-Retailers	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
including Producer-Wholesalers	.....	.....	.....	.....	15
Milk Producers outside the district retailing in the district					1

All raw milk sold within the Urban District is from tuberculin tested cows.

The Milk and Daries (General) Regulations, 1959 :—

Number of milk distributors registered by the local authority and operating from :—

(a) Dairies in the district	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
(b) Shops in the district other than dairies	.....	.....	.....	.....	33
(c) Premises outside the district	.....	.....	.....	.....	5

The Urban District is included in Area 8 of the Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) (No. 2) Order, 1958, in which the use of special designations in relation to the retail sales of milk for human consumption is made compulsory.

Thirty inspections of milk distributors' premises and vehicles were carried out during the year and time spent on advisory work in connection with clean and safe milk distribution.



### Milk Sampling :—

Considering the facts that all milk producing herds within the Urban District hold Tuberculin Tested licences and that all milk disposed of wholesale is destined for pasteurisation—the sampling of untreated milk is confined to that from herds where the milk is sold by retail distribution within the Council's area.

During the year 15 samples of milk were taken for biological examination tests and all were found free from tuberculous infection.

Fifteen samples of milk were submitted to the Methylene Blue test for cleanliness and all were graded as satisfactory. Seven samples of pasteurised milk were submitted to the Methylene Blue and Phosphates tests with satisfactory results.

No samples were examined for *Brucella Abortus*.

### PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Refuse Collection Service provides employment for 13 full-time men—this includes the foreman.

The vehicle establishment now consists of one “Dennis” Paxit 11A 16/24 cubic yard capacity compression loader and two “Dennis” 10 cubic yard side-loaders—all powered by diesel engines.

The changing character of refuse—lower density to greater volume—indicates the importance of increased payloads and in this respect the merits of the compression loader are self-evident.

Except for the interruptions caused by public and general holidays a weekly collection of refuse—from the rear of all premises—was maintained throughout the year.

It is gratifying to record that the service operates efficiently and generally without complaint.

Considerable importance is attached to adequate and regular vehicle maintenance and the working of overtime is discouraged.

With few exceptions no charge was made for the removal of trade refuse. It is correct to point out that much of the trade refuse removed is salvaged and sold and the revenue so produced is greater than that which would accrue from trade refuse charges.

The sand pits at Langtree Hall Farm used for the purpose of refuse disposal have proved very satisfactory and no complaints have been received. It is anticipated that this site will provide disposal capacity for several years.

A combination of factors have more recently emphasised the need for adequate and regular tip control and research into the most suitable type of machine to undertake this task—having regard to local conditions—was proceeding at the end of the year. A four-wheel drive tractor shovel is the machine in mind for this work.

The refuse tips are regularly treated with bait and insecticide as a precaution against rodent and insect infestation.

The emptying of the few remaining pail closets was carried out weekly.

The major works of adaption and improvement of the Grove Lane Public Cleansing Depot together with the installation of a 5 horse-power paper baling press were completed during the year.

The outcome of these protracted operations is a department of which the Council can justifiably feel proud for by the standard of the refuse collection service—a service which intimately touches every ratepayer—the efficiency or otherwise of a local authority may often be judged.

The dustbin provision and ownership scheme has been in existance since 1951 and is operating satisfactorily. During the year 146 dustbins were provided out of the General Rate Fund.

Salvage was collected at the same time as the refuse and kept separately for baling and subsequent despatch to Thames Board Mills Limited at Warrington under contract arrangements.

The salvage of waste paper has come to be regarded as a permanent and important part of the Public Cleansing Service.

The workmen are rewarded 20 per cent. of all income from the sale of salvaged materials as an incentive to increase collection.

The income from the sale of salvaged materials during the calendar year was :—

Grade	Tons	Cwts.	Qtrs.	£	s.	d.
Mixed Paper .....	63	8	3	493	14	3¼
Fibreboard.....	49	11	0	478	13	6
Newspaper .....	43	17	0	370	5	10½
<hr/>						
Total weight .....	156	16	3	1342	13	7¾
Rags and scrap .....	4	14	0	31	10	0
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Grand total weight	161	10	3	£1374	3	7¾

In collaboration with the local branch of the R.S.P.C.A., facilities for the lethalisation of unwanted, sick and injured cats and kittens are established at the Grove Lane Public Cleansing Depot.

The cleansing of non-County roads is carried out under the direction and supervision of the Surveyor.

**Anti-litter Campaign.**—The Council has provided a number of litter bins which have been fixed at suitable points in the district. These are emptied at weekly intervals by the Public Cleansing Department.

With a view to keeping the district clean and tidy—when requested the department seeks to co-operate as far as possible with the removal of unwanted bulky articles which residents find difficult to dispose of themselves.



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